

Background

Within the framework of IUC, European Academy Berlin (EAB) and partner organizations, the aim is to develop a youth project, to create a strong European youth agenda, by empowering young people to take active part in the European integration process and make their voices heard in a structured way. The International Summer Academy 2018 in Berlin welcomes young people, who will meet to discuss scenarios for a future Europe, making better use of its assets culturally and politically.

The aim of the summer seminar is also to set up a European youth internet platform for dialogue, intercultural exchange and networking, e.g. using concepts and expressions of politics and culture as strategic factors. We intend to go beyond the framework of institutional “youth policies” developed within the European Union as top-down approaches. Rather, the seminar should make already existing experiences, demands and perceptions of young individuals more visible and create a space, in which they meet and develop new forms of cross-border connections, as well as making use of inventive creative expressions. Whereas debates and media representation often focus on EU institutions and national governments, attention should be given to the strong demand for more direct and different participation, and transparency - via movements, rallies, social networks, and campaigns expressed and carried out by many young citizens - in interaction with people and organizations from Berlin - Europe’s capital.

Possible outputs can be short videos, narratives, blog entries, podcasts, etc. Connecting past and current experiences with a broader vision, a “manifesto”, which questions and challenges phenomena of present Europe and sets agendas for the future. Presented in a website, which will have appeal and influence far beyond the actual week in Berlin, to be used in a variety of contexts.

The seminar will be coordinated by IUC and EAB (and other partners) and hosted in the spectacular building of the European Academy in Grunewald - a historical place in Berlin.

5-6 days July - August 2018 (29th -3rd) at the EAB

50-60 participants (and moderators) aged 18-25+

Seminar elements:

- *Teambuilding*
- *Exhibition gallery*
- *Presentations of good experiences/practices from youth projects*
- *Inputs from key Europeans*
- *Study visits/exploring Berlin/interaction with local organizations/people*
- *Workshops on how to develop cross border agendas for and by young people in Europe*
- *Cultural/political manifestos to be presented in Berlin/Brussels*
- *Advanced use of social media/websites*